

Department of Communications

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Karen Freeman-Wilson Mayor LaLosa Dent Burns Director of Communications

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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CITY OF GARY'S FALL BLIGHT BUSTER DAY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 Volunteers Working Together Cleaning Up and Cleaning Out

Gary, Indiana-On Saturday, October 19, 2019 city departments, businesses, community organizations, faith-based groups, educational institutions, block clubs and other volunteers will "clean up and clean out" in the city during its annual Blight Buster Day.

The Mayor's Office of Constituent Services (MOCS) has planned the City's annual Blight Buster Day for the past five years and continues to look for volunteers each year to help rid the city of debris, clean vacant lots and to cut grass. City departments also perform other tasks including tree cutting, pot hole patching, issuing citations and towing abandoned vehicles. **Anyone interested in volunteering for the cleanup may call the MOCS at 219-881-4815 or via email:** mocs@ci.gary.in.us.

While safety materials, garbage bags and gloves will be provided, volunteers may bring rakes, brooms and other supplies. This year volunteers are asked to meet at New Macedonia Baptist Church, 2533 Waite Street at 7:30 a.m. for Sign-in and the Rally. **The cleanup is from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.** Volunteers may also register on site. The October 19th cleanup will focus on 25th Avenue west from Grant Street to Burr Street. **The Media is invited.**

The city thanks all partners and sponsors in this cleanup effort: AARP, the Gary Sanitary District, Republic Services, McDonald's, Fresh County Market, New Macedonia Baptist Church. "The cleanup would not be a success with our supporters," stated Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson. We also thank all city departments, community organizations and our volunteers."

In addition to volunteering for Saturday's Blight Buster Day, for more information about the cleanup and sponsorship opportunities in the city, please email mocs@ci.gary.in.us or contact LaShawn Brooks, Director of the Mayor's Office of Constituent Service at 881-4815. -30-

